

REMARKS

Claims 1, 59, and 60 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claim 63 has been canceled in response to the objection to claims 62 and 63. Claims 1-62 and 64-67 are pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4, 7-20, 23-29, 34-60 and 62-63 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Oliver, and the remaining claims under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oliver as combined with one or more other references.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claims 1, 59, and 60, each has been amended to make clear that a central control system is used to control irrigation for a plurality of properties, each owned by a different property owner, and that for each property one or more users have access to information and controls regarding that property via a user interface of the central control system that each respective user accesses, e.g., via the World Wide Web, using a host associated with that user. Application, page 6, line 20 – page 7, line 19. As noted previously, Oliver appears to contemplate a client based system serving a single property, owned by a single property owner, hosted by a host computer 4 configured to control irrigation at potentially a plurality of distinct “sites” at that property, each potential controlled by a site computer or controller 1. The approach taught by Oliver would not, among other things, facilitate the analysis of water usage, environmental, or other data across property owners, e.g., customers of a particular water agency, described in the above-captioned application, since the host computer 4 described by Oliver would have data for only one (potentially multi-site) property.

Claims 2-58, 61, 62, and 64-67 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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